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Fashion's Newest Extravagances

The Rising Tide of Over Elaboration and Costliness in the Mid-Winter Hats, Furs and Gowns

The Latest Word in Automobile Outfits, the "Shaker" Gowns. They Look Simple, but They're Very Expensive.



mented by a natter blue satin, deeply founced with still paler ninon on which shadowy pink roses are patterned, one of these prettiest shadings being repeated in the velvet ribbon which holds the little topmost ruching of the founce and is then finished off with a long-looped bow at either side. Or then, again, if seal musquash is outwardly allied to gray squirrel — and this is a very fashionably favored union—there will be an inner "combine" of gray satin and cloudy chiffon on whose cobwebby device of oxidized silver and dull gold many mauve and pink chrysanthemums are shadowed, the velvet ribbon matching the pale blossoms while the little buttons which hold in bordering folds of chiffon at either side of the coat from neck to knees are alternately of silver and gold. A chinchilla coat, on the other hand, will just be lined quite simply with gray satin, whose slight shimmer is still further softened by a veiling of chiffon, which is folded into a series of narrow platings to form an inner bordering for the beautiful fur, whose outward adornment, a d and founce of ermine, and broadly bordering bands of the regal fur on the muff; and again of a shot silver and gold tissue on whose shimmering, ever-changing ground there is brocade a raised device of black velvet, ermine again being the fur chosen for its finishing.

thing being so embedded in the fur that it only just suggests itself and never obtrudes its presence, which is as it should be always.

But, of course, the chinchilla coat is a possession only for the moneyed minority, whereas the musquash model is a comparatively easy and inexpensive acquisition, even when trimmed with skunk, as the price of the skins has gone down considerably since last season. This is why, I suppose, broadtail has been brought into rival prominence, and is, indeed, being used for quite half of the smartest new models, both in the way of coats and stoles, skunk being generally chosen for its trimming in the former case, while for the lesser wraps ermine frequently affords the desired contrast.

Finally as regards wraps, which are definitely dedicated to evening wear. Their sumptuous richness is something to marvel at, both when you see the effect, and study the cost! The richest of tissue and velvet brocades are combined with metallic lace and fur, and the wrap is generally provided with a huge muff to match. I have a memory of one superb affair of sapphire blue and silver brocade, with collar and founce of ermine, and broadly bordering bands of the regal fur on the muff; and again of a shot silver and gold tissue on whose shimmering, ever-changing ground there is brocade a raised device of black velvet, ermine again being the fur chosen for its finishing.

And imagine, too, the loveliness of a coat of tailless ermine, worked diagonally, so that all its lines follow the curious, one-sided slope of its deep cape collar, the same effect being repeated at the hem, where the little brushed ermine tails are brought together to form a bordering fringe above a deep banding of Venetian gimpure doubly underlined with black chiffon, and so only giving a faint though fascinating glimpse of an inner loveliness and lining of natter blue crepe de chine. Yes, most certainly women are going to have some gorgeous furs this Winter, and their husbands some correspondingly big bills.

One of the New "Indian Chief" Hats, with its \$2,000 Mass of Aigrettes.

And still I have not told you one half of the new fashions and fascinations of fur, though now I hope you are already sufficiently interested to continue investigations on your own account.



A Fur-Trimmed Silk Wrap, with One of the New Great Muffs Fastened with a Costly Cameo and Diamond Brooch.

LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.

Lady Duff-Gordon's new Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

Lady Duff-Gordon's American establishment is at No. 17 West Thirty-sixth street, New York City.

By Lady Duff-Gordon ("Lucile")

Paris, January 2.
PICTURESQUE as the tendency may be, I want to sound a note of warning against the rapidly increasing extravagance in the season's fashions. Lavishness is not taste, nor is over-elaboration beauty. Neither beauty nor taste increase through size alone. You cannot multiply effects simply by making your objects bigger. A canvas only a few inches square may be exquisite in taste and charm, but when expanded into a canvas of many feet it may lose all these qualities and be nothing but crude and rough.

Neither is extravagance in spending money a criterion either of taste or beauty. To get some effects one necessarily has to spend a great deal of money; but it is equally true that as fine effects of their kind are secured by the very cheapest of materials.

What I want to bring out is that extravagance in the use of materials or prices does not mean effectiveness or charm in the things bought. One rose may give just the needed touch to a dress, but do twelve roses make it twelve times as effective? Certainly not! And I am a bit anxious that this tendency which has not yet reached its limit shall not affect those who are interested in my articles.

Here I show photographs of the newest hats which are christened "Indian Chiefs" in Paris. The aigrettes upon this one hat were taken from the breasts of forty mother herons; naturally the mothers died in giving up their plumes and so did their baby birds. The whole hat loaded down with the feathers costs exactly \$2,500.

No doubt the ladies of the American Indian chiefs thought their heroes extremely beautiful when they put on all the feathers they possibly could and danced about the fire for their benefit. Of course, if we believe that the feather taste of the Indian brave and Indian squaw is the correct one, why stop at such enormous bunches of plumes such as these? Why not go on and decorate straight down the back with several thousand dollars worth more of heron feathers? Indeed, this suggestion is not so far fetched, for I have seen new hats, which will be displayed shortly, on which the aigrettes are clustered in the back and fall half way down the woman's back, springing from a little jeweled helmet-like toke in a perfect cascade.

I like large furs—for certain types of women. But this does not mean that because large sets of furs are worn, carry a perfect fur shop on their shoulders and on their arms.

At the beginning of the Winter season it was seen that furs were to be large. They have not stopped growing since, and the mid-Winter furs are simply enormous. Muffs that almost reach the ground! Stoles and wraps that were yards across! And can you imagine how expensive these sets are?

How much better it is to combine furs tastefully and beautifully with other fabrics. Then one can have larger sets in far better taste than these terrific avalanches of furs I am describing. Nor do such combined sets become so monotonous. Little changes can always be made here and there to suit them to almost any toilette. But one cannot do this with the complete fur sets.

In the dresses the extravagant note is sounded just as loudly. But let me describe a fur coat of the typical new fashion which is not so expensive. Of seal musquash it displays a great collar of skunk, which, narrowing as it nears the waist, eventually fastens far over on the left side of the hip with an enormous ornament formed of entwined cordings of satin or braid or both. There being, indeed, no other outwardly visible fastening for the coat at all, though its close, not to say clinging, fit is secured not only by its end, but by the inner presence of loops and buttons, both of satin to match the lining, and therefore not noticeable even when the wrap is thrown open.

There will next be added a deep founce of the skunk, which follows the curves in which the coat is cut about the feet, while the last but not the least important detail of difference is to be found in the sleeves, which are frequently now of raglan instead of kimono cut, the seamless curve over the shoulder being combined with an under-seam, which gives a more defined armhole, but one still sufficiently capacious for comfort.

For lining there seems to be a preference for satin of rich old gold shading, just finished off with a bordering band which is gathered and corded into scrolls. This is a distinctly sensible as well as smart choice, for this particular color will make an effectively harmonious background for gowns of almost any other tone, though another scheme which has much to recommend it and is certainly more obvious, new, utilizes soft Saxony blue satin patterned with big self-colored spots, though eventually these give place to others even larger and of wider ribbed silk, these forming a border for either side in front.

And still another degree in the elaboration of the lining is repre-

You Can Carry Your Own 'Hello' Line Around In Your Pocket Now



Contact-Places Are Located on Walls and Posts in Every Street and the Woman Who Carries a Pocket Telephone Need Never Look for a Drug Store.

A VEST pocket telephone has been invented for general use. It was invented by a German concern and has been thoroughly tried out in Berlin, where it has been found to work satisfactorily.

A compact receiver and transmitter fit into a small circular nickel case two and a half inches in diameter and three-quarters of an inch thick. The whole contrivance weighs only seven ounces and may be carried in a lady's handbag or attached to her chasteleine.

It will be understood, of course, that this device does not in itself enable one to telephone without first connecting it with the general telephone system.

On every street, however, contact places have been provided at very short distances. They are fastened to walls, doors, trees, lampposts or other convenient places. They are tightly enclosed, so that neither humidity nor storms can damage them, and they are thoroughly insulated.

The advantage of the contrivance as far as the telephone user is concerned lies in the fact that one can now telephone wherever one happens to be. It is no longer necessary to enter a busy drug store or other pay station and wait one's turn or to walk a great distance, in sparsely populated sections, to find such a station at all. There are so many of these contact places that it is now as easy to telephone as it is to mail a letter. Indeed, in the busy portions of Berlin there are two or three of these contact places to every block.

Of course, one misses the privacy of the telephone booth, although the pocket telephone is so delicately constructed that one need speak in only a very low tone of voice.

To the Government, which oper-

ates the telephone system, the new contrivance means a great saving, as the pay station operators are thus made unnecessary.

Every person equipped with one of these pocket telephones has a simple and speedy means of reaching the police, the fire houses, the hospitals or other institutions needed on an emergency, for the telephone central operators are directed to be particularly prompt in giving the desired connection in such cases.

In consequence of the enormous expansion of the German capital, there are many outlying districts which are rendered unsafe through insufficient policing, and the pocket telephone was readily adopted as a partial solution of this problem. The new system is greatly favored as an adjunct to the police system generally, however, for every policeman is provided with a pocket phone and can communicate with headquarters or other city departments whenever he finds it necessary.

In the parks and forests the contact stations are located on convenient trees, and one may now take a long walk through the woods and still be in touch of city at all times.

The pocket telephone has not yet found its way across the ocean, but it seems to be so satisfactory that there is little doubt that before long we, too, will be using it. The police in many American cities have, of course, already adopted a somewhat similar system for communication between their posts and station houses, but they are simply provided with keys to boxes in which ordinary telephones are kept. The portable telephone will be of far greater application and would do away with the exasperating experiences which we so frequently have to endure in out drug store pay stations. Even the slot machine has not entirely solved the difficulty, for one is not always provided with the particular coin required and it is not always an easy matter to obtain change.



The Vest-Pocket Telephone, Which Can Be Carried in a Lady's Hand-Bag.

A Walk in the Park No Longer Places One Out of Reach of the Town. The Pocket-Telephone Solves the Difficulty.